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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Applicant: Bell

Serial No.: 09/448,253

Filed: November 24, 1999

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR AUTHORIZED
COMPRESSION OF DIGITIZED MUSIC

Art Unit: 3621

Examiner: Sherr

AM9-99-0122

October 25, 2002
750 B STREET, Suite 3120
San Diego, CA 92101RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTIONCommissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 10, 2002, **CANCEL CLAIMS 9-12 WITHOUT PREJUDICE.**

The following remarks are submitted. All pending claims have been rejected as being unpatentable over Ryan in view of Pham et al.

All still-pending independent claims require permitting either recording or compression, or both, of data such as music only if a digital signature associated with the music matches an authorized signature. Nowhere does Ryan even mention the words "compress" or "compression" or address these concepts, much less does Ryan contemplate preventing compression if signatures do not match.

Nonetheless, evidently with primary respect to "recording", the examiner has alleged that Ryan, col. 2, line 15 through col. 4, line 22 teaches "permitting at least one of compression of the music, and recording

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